



DOCKET NO.: 09/450,999

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PATENT
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#24C
NE

In re patent application of:

**John Robert Porter, John Clifford Head,
Graham John Warrelow and Sarah Catherine Archibald**

Serial No.: 09/450,999

Group Art Unit: 1624

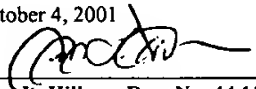
Filed: November 29, 1999

Examiner: T. McKenzie

For: **β -ALANINE DERIVATIVES**

I, Gregory L. Hillyer, Registration No. 44,154 certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

On October 4, 2001


Gregory L. Hillyer, Reg. No. 44,154

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 TO
OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 30, 2001**

In response to the Office Action mailed May 30, 2001, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended, without prejudice, as follows.

In the Claims

Claims 16, 17, and 18 have been amended as follows.

16. (amended twice) A compound of formula (1):